

Weekly Column for June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004

For the second straight weekend the spotlight of the Capital District will be on the City of Troy, and for the second straight weekend, we will not fail in presenting our City as the destination spot we all know it to be.

This weekend we shift gears from the Troy Flag Day Parade to the inaugural River Street Festival, which I believe will be a wonderful success.

With the help of merchants along River Street, specifically Dana Rudolph, Jim Barrett and Mike Davis, the City has put together this festival in what should be a record time. In less than three months the entire festival was put together, and we are expecting minimal bumps in the road on Saturday.

On the music front, we have ten terrific bands, all with ties to Troy in one fashion or another. Headlining the afternoon of fun and excitement will be garage rock legends The Fleshtones! Remember the music begins at noon, while the festival actually starts at 10 a.m.

And speaking of the festival itself, the juried arts and crafts, as well as the antiques, are really going to set this get together apart from others. This is not going to be a flea market, or some gathering not worth attending. Instead, it is going to be what the River Street area is all about. An eclectic mix of arts and antiques, great music, and an added addition, a mix of food certain to sooth the palates of the most scrutinizing person.

Make sure you stop down to River Street on Friday- between Monument Square and Congress Street- and take in a little of Troy's new festival. And while you're at it, hope the weather holds out, as it looks like it should be sunny and 80 degrees.

In other news this week, I would like to thank four people who saved a woman from a fire last Friday. It is people like Rick Woods, a retired firefighter, Eric Adams, Wayne Rado, an off-duty firefighter, and Larry Quinn that make me proud to live in the City of Troy. These were neighbors helping each other, making sure everyone inside of the house on Pointview Drive was okay; risking their own lives in doing so. The City of Troy thanks them for all they did.

On Friday I also will have the opportunity to receive some proposals for a development at the Congress Street-Ferry Street intersection. This project could be huge, and I love new development. Keep your fingers crossed for some imaginative plans that will improve our City in a number of ways.

That's all I have for this week. Please do not forget to stop by the River Street festival, and just a reminder that Sunday is Father's Day. Until next week, if you have any questions, comments, concerns or complaints, please contact me at 270-4401, or e-mail me at the Mayor's Office.